

April 21, 2000

2000032

SUBJECT: FSP - Illinois Waiver Request - 7 CFR 273.8(e)(18) - Vehicles as Inaccessible Resources

TO: All Regional Directors  
Food Stamp Program

Attached is a copy of our response to the Illinois State Agency's request to waive 7 CFR 273.8(e)(18) to allow vehicles to be included as inaccessible resources. We are approving this waiver, as it would allow early implementation of the President's initiative to make it easier for working families to have a reliable vehicle and access program benefits. Please let State agencies know about the availability of this waiver at your earliest possible convenience.

We have decided to allow Regional Offices to approve like waiver requests. We believe this will allow FNS to respond more quickly to these requests and will expedite implementation in the field. Indications are that many States will be requesting this waiver.

We will need to keep an accurate tally of States implementing this waiver. Please help us by transmitting an electronic copy of your waiver approval letters as soon as these are signed. If you have any questions, please call Patrick Waldron at 703-305-2805.

Arthur T. Foley  
Director  
Program Development Division

Attachment

cc: Retha Oliver, w/attachment  
Maurice Tracy, w/ attachment  
Civil Rights, w/attachment

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SUBJECT: FSP - Illinois Waiver Request - 7 CFR 273.8(e)(18) - Vehicles as Inaccessible Resources

TO: Ollice Holden, Regional Director  
Food Stamp Program  
Midwest Region

This is in response to the Illinois State Agency's request to waive 7 CFR 273.8(e)(18) to allow vehicles to be included as inaccessible resources. We are approving this waiver for a period of two years.

Our response is attached. If you have any questions, please call Patrick Waldron at 703-305-2805.

Arthur T. Foley  
Director  
Program Development Division

Attachment

cc: Retha Oliver, w/attachment  
Maurice Tracy, w/ attachment  
Civil Rights, w/attachment  
All Regions (except MWRO), w/ attachment

## WAIVER RESPONSE

1. **Waiver serial number:** 2000032
2. **Type of request:** Initial
3. **Primary regulation citation:** 7 CFR 273.8(e)(18)
4. **Secondary regulation citation:** 7 CFR 273.8(g)
5. **State:** Illinois
6. **Region:** Midwest
7. **Regulatory requirements:** 7 CFR 273.8(e)(18) specifically prohibits application of the inaccessible resource provision to vehicles.
8. **Description of proposed alternative procedures** Proposed regulations would allow States to include vehicles as inaccessible resources. Consequently, the value of any vehicle that the household is unable to sell for any significant return because the household's interest would be relatively slight or the costs of selling the household's interest would be relatively great would be excluded. Illinois proposes to adopt the terms of the proposed regulations upon waiver approval. The State agency feels that waiver approval will benefit households who need transportation to achieve self-sufficiency without sacrificing nutritional needs. The State agency will benefit in applying a more consistent policy with regard to resources. The anticipated result will be better service to households with a reduction of case errors.
9. **Action and reason for approval or denial:** Based on your recommendation, and the information provided by the State agency, we are approving this waiver for 2 years or until the final rule, "Noncitizen Eligibility and Certification Provisions of Public Law 104-193, as Amended by Public Laws 104-208, 105-33 and 105-185," is published, whichever is earlier.
10. **Regulatory or legislative basis for action:** The waiver is approved under the authority of 7 CFR 272.3(c)(1)(ii), which authorizes waivers that would improve Program administration.
11. **Conditions and reasons:** The State agency must follow the policy set forth in the proposed rule.
12. **Information required for extension:** N/A

13. **Expiration date:** Two years after the State agency implements the waiver, or the effective date of the final rule, "Noncitizen Eligibility and Certification Provisions of Public Law 104-193, as Amended by Public Laws 104-208, 105-33 and 105-185," whichever is earlier.
14. **Limitation, if any, on regional office approval of like requests:** Regional Offices may approve like requests.
15. **Quality control procedures:** : Quality Control reviews shall be conducted employing the standard review procedures of FNS Handbook 310. All vehicles shall be evaluated for resource value in accordance with the provisions of the waiver and existing policy.
16. **Date of national office action:** April 21, 2000
17. **Date of State agency's request:** February 29, 2000
18. **Date of regional office transmittal of request to national office:** March 13, 2000
19. **Date of regional office transmittal of response to State agency:**
20. **Actual implementation date:**